

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

1. REGISTRATION NO.  
58-V-0005

CUSTOMER NO.  
933

FORM APPROVED  
OMB NO. 0579-0036

# ANNUAL REPORT OF RESEARCH FACILITY

(TYPE OR PRINT)

2. HEADQUARTERS RESEARCH FACILITY (Name and Address, as registered with USDA, include Zip Code)

VA MEDICAL CENTER  
1201 NW 16TH ST.  
MIAMI, FL 33125

3. REPORTING FACILITY (List all locations where animals were housed or used in actual research, testing, teaching, or experimentation, or held for these purposes. Attach additional sheets if necessary.)

## FACILITY LOCATIONS (sites)

(b)(2)High, (b)(7)f

## REPORT OF ANIMALS USED BY OR UNDER CONTROL OF RESEARCH FACILITY (Attach additional sheets if necessary or use APHIS FORM 7023A)

A. Animals Covered By The Animal Welfare Regulations	B. Number of animals being bred, conditioned, or held for use in teaching, testing, experiments, research, or surgery but not yet used for such purposes.	C. Number of animals upon which teaching, research, experiments, or tests were conducted involving no pain, distress, or use of pain- relieving drugs.	D. Number of animals upon which experiments, teaching, research, surgery, or tests were conducted involving accompanying pain or distress to the animals and for which appropriate anesthetic, analgesic, or tranquilizing drugs were used.	E. Number of animals upon which teaching, experiments, research, surgery or tests were conducted involving accompanying pain or distress to the animals and for which the use of appropriate anesthetic, analgesic, or tranquilizing drugs would have adversely affected the procedures, results, or interpretation of the teaching, research, experiments, surgery, or tests. (An explanation of the procedures producing pain or distress in these animals and the reasons such drugs were not used must be attached to this report)	F. TOTAL NO. OF ANIMALS  (Cols. C + D + E)
4. Dogs			7		7
5. Cats					
6. Guinea Pigs					
7. Hamsters					
8. Rabbits					
9. Non-Human Primates					
10. Sheep					
11. Pigs					
12. Other Farm Animals					
13. Other Animals					
Rats		10	133	444	587
Mice	23		50		50

## ASSURANCE STATEMENTS

- 1) Professionally acceptable standards governing the care, treatment, and use of animals, including appropriate use of anesthetic, analgesic, and tranquilizing drugs, prior to, during, and following actual research, teaching, testing, surgery, or experimentation were followed by this research facility.
- 2) Each principal investigator has considered alternatives to painful procedures.
- 3) This facility is adhering to the standards and regulations under the Act, and it has required that exceptions to the standards and regulations be specified and explained by the principal investigator and approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). A summary of all the exceptions is attached to this annual report. In addition to identifying the IACUC-approved exceptions, this summary includes a brief explanation of the exceptions, as well as the species and number of animals affected.
- 4) The attending veterinarian for this research facility has appropriate authority to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care and to oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal care and use.

## CERTIFICATION BY HEADQUARTERS RESEARCH FACILITY OFFICIAL (Chief Executive Officer or Legally Responsible Institutional official)

I certify that the above is true, correct, and complete (7 U.S.C. Section 2143)

SIGNATURE OF C.E.O. OR INSTITUTIONAL OFFICIAL

NAME & TITLE OF C.E.O. OR INSTITUTIONAL OFFICIAL (Type or Print)

DATE SIGNED

(b)(6), (6)(7)(C)

11/15/2006

### APHIS Form 7023 Column E Explanation

This form is intended as an aid to completing the APHIS Form 7023 Column E explanation. It is not an official form and its use is voluntary. Names, addresses, protocols, veterinary care programs, and the like, are not required as part of an explanation. A Column E explanation must be written so as to be understood by lay persons as well as scientists.

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1. Registration Number: 58-V-0005

2/3. Species (common name) & Number of animals used in this study:

Rats (444)

4. Explain the procedure producing pain and/or distress.

Research related to spinal cord injury and the pain associated with SCI utilize procedures that fit the definition of Category E. All surgical procedures are performed under anesthesia and the animals are insensate to the procedures. In vivo model of induction of hepatic encephalopathy (HE): Research related to the mechanisms of hepatic encephalopathy also involve procedures that fit the of "category E". Adult rats are injected with NH<sub>4</sub>Ac or TAA to induce HE. Although HE creates a stupor-like state, it does not appear to be painful to the animal. Preparation of astrocyte and neuronal cultures for the In vitro studies: Decapitation of pup/fetuses without anesthesia is necessary because anesthesia would interfere with measurements of energy metabolites and possibly some of the enzyme activities that are assayed.

5. Provide scientific justification why pain and/or distress could not be relieved. State methods or means used to determine that pain and/or distress relief would interfere with test results. (For Federally mandated testing, see Item 6 below)

Pain or distress relief can not be provided in adult rats inject with NH<sub>4</sub>Ac or TAA because animals must be monitored to determine the clinical stages of encephalopathy. This will allow the investigators to assess the therapeutic benefits of the test agents.

6. What, if any, federal regulations require this procedure? Cite the agency, the code of Federal Regulations (CFR) title number and the specific section number (e.g., APHIS, 9 CFR 113.102):

Agency:

CFR: